

Message

From: Enck, Judith [Enck.Judith@epa.gov]
Sent: 2/9/2016 5:20:43 PM
To: Mears, Mary [Mears.Mary@epa.gov]
CC: McCabe, Catherine [McCabe.Catherine@epa.gov]; Plevin, Lisa [Plevin.Lisa@epa.gov]; Purchia, Liz [Purchia.Liz@epa.gov]
Subject: Re: URGENT: questions from Albany Times Union

Hi Mary. The second question we have answered before. The attorneys for Saint gob sent a letter to tsca program in hq marked cbi. They forwarded village test results which showed one of three wells over 400ppt and that test well was taken off line, thus they did not report water being used above the EPA 400ppt number at the time. The company did not copy the regional office. Jim Jones has since put a process in place to make sure regional offices receive these letters in the future. On the first question I called the state health department a number of times and advised them to amend their 2014 fact sheets in two ways. First, they should join EPA in advising residents not to drink the water. They put out a second fact sheet that kind of said that. I also requested that they delete the section saying that no adverse health effects are expected with normal use of Hoosick Falls water. I told them about the national EPA info and they rejected it because they said we did not have a final binding number. So I think we can honestly say that yes my DOH should have referenced the EPA health information and not make a sweeping statement about safety. When I asked them if they have blood samples or other data backing up their position they said no but have one of their risk assessor staff tell me about margins of safety which we disagreed with them on.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 9, 2016, at 10:56 AM, Mears, Mary <Mears.Mary@epa.gov> wrote:

I think we should discuss how to proceed.

Mary Mears
Deputy Director Public Affairs and Chief Public Outreach Branch
U.S. EPA Region 2 (NJ, NY, PR, the US VI and eight Indian Nations)
(212) 637-3673 (Direct Office)
(212) 637-3660 (General Office)
(646) 369-0077 (Cell)

From: Lyons, Brendan [<mailto:BLyons@TimesUnion.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 11:50 AM
To: Martin, John <Martin.JohnJ@epa.gov>; Mears, Mary <Mears.Mary@epa.gov>
Cc: Enck, Judith <Enck.Judith@epa.gov>
Subject: <no subject>

Good morning,

Mary, I left a phone message as well but thought I'd shoot off a quick email to get the ball rolling. I realize that Judith Enck is "off the grid" currently with limited access to email.

I am working on a follow-up story regarding Hoosick Falls (PFOA pollution) that focuses on the state Department of Health's Center for Environmental Health. As you may recall, this unit issued a "fact sheet" that was distributed last year by the village to its residents.

My question is whether, in your opinion, the DOH should have relied on or could have at least cited the **February 2014** draft results of an EPA preliminary report on the health effects of PFOA that were posted online by EPA. The study documented, with references, the health of occupational and residential populations at or near large-scale PFOA production plants in the

United States. It concluded that epidemiological studies had found a positive association between serum PFOA concentration and chronic kidney disease ...early menopause...decreased antibody titers in children after vaccination...delayed puberty in girls...obesity effects in female children at age 20...and parent reported attention deficit disorder (ADHD). Furthermore, [in Section 5.2] the study documented that there is evidence that PFOA exposure may be associated with an increased risk for cancer of the bladder, kidney, and urinary tract.

Also, when Saint-Gobain wrote its letter to the EPA in December 2014 alerting the agency to the water-contamination issues, do you know why that information was not forwarded immediately to the EPA's regional office and followed up on? (This question is starting to be asked here by some state lawmakers).

Thanks in advance for any responses on these issues.

Brendan J. Lyons

Investigations Editor/Senior Writer

Times Union

News Plaza Box 15000

Albany, New York 12212

518-454-5547

Blyons@timesunion.com

@Brendan_LyonsTU
